

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02342 081509Z

56

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DIWY-01 AID-05 EB-07 OES-06 LAB-04 HEW-04

SIL-01 COME-00 AF-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 CU-02 DHA-02

AGR-05 TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 /138 W
----- 112395

R 081317Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5182

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2342

FOR SAMUEL LEWIS IO AND DONALD TOUSSAINT IO FROM SHIRLEY HENDSCH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, UN, AR

SUBJECT: UN SEMINAR ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT
BUENOS AIRES, MARCH 22-31: USDEL RECOMMENDATIONS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2256

1. SUMMARY. WIDE SUPPORT ENCOUNTERED FOR US POSITION AT UN SEMINAR RE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO ACCELERATE WOMEN'S INTEGRATION IN DEVELOPMENT AS OPPOSED TO NIEO, CERDS AND THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER FORUMALTION OF MEXICO AND CUBA. USDEL SUGGESTS THAT THE US GIVE CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS ASPECT IN FUTURE UN STRATEGY, PARTICULARLY THOSE ASPECTS FEATURING "PERCY AMENDMENT" TYPE PLANNING FOR DEVELOPMENT.

2. USDEL TO THIS UN SEMINAR HAS GIVEN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO IMPLICATIONS THAT MAY BE DRAWN FROM WIDESPREAD SUPPORT ACCORDED US POSITION BY GREAT MAJORITY PARTICIPANTS ON CERDS NIEO AND THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER ISSUE PRESSED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02342 081509Z

BY MEXICO, CUBA IN THIS ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA.

3. LIKE USUN INITIATIVE IN JANUARY 1974 TO HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN DURING IWY, USEL MET NO SERIOUS DIFFICULTY IN ACHIEVING CLEAR UNDERSTANDING AMONG LARGE MAJORITY THOSE PRESENT (EXCEPT MEXICO, CUBA AND PERU) THAT US WAS SINCERE IN ITS DESIRE TO AID MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, I.E., WOMEN, TO GAIN ACCESS TO BETTER EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND OTHER SKILLS THAT WILL IMPROVE THEIR STATUS AND CONDITIONS OF LIFE. THE ALTERNATIVE AS OFFERED BY MEXICO AND CUBA WHO SOUGHT TO IDENTIFY SEMINAR CONCLUSIONS WITH SYSTEM SET FORTH IN THE CERDS AND NIEO. IT BECAME APPARENT THAT PARTICIPANTS SAW NIEO-CERDS AS A CONTINUATION OF PAST DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES NOW TIME WORN, CULTURALLY INGRAINED AND OUTMODED.

4. THERE WAS MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR THAT ASPECT OF US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION AFFECTED BY THE PERCY AMENDMENT. PARTICIPANTS WANTED A CONCEPT INCORPORATED IN THEIR OWN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION AND IN ANY REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION THAT CALLS FOR FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF THE REGION.

5. IT WAS CLEAR THAT THIS STRONG SUPPORT AMONG WOMEN NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY A MEXICAN ATTACK ON THE US FOR BEING THE ONLY DEVELOPED COUNTRY IN THE HEMISPHERE TO OPPOSE CERDS AND NIEO AND DECLARATION OF MEXICO.

6. ALSO CLEAR PARTICIPANTS TRUSTED GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE US IN THIS REGARD AND SINCERITY OF US COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT ANY EFFORT DESIGNED TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF WOMEN. THEY NOTED THAT A VARIETY OF UN INSTRUMENTS HAD LONG GUARANTEED EQUALITY FOR MEN AND WOMEN, INCLUDING THE UN CHARTER, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, AS WELL AS MANY OTHER SPECIFIC CONVENTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER COMMITMENTS OF THE UNESCO, ILO, FAO, UNDP, IBD, IMF, ETC.

7. SUGGEST US APPROACH TO A PROGRAM OF THIS NATURE NEED NOT BE ONE OF EXCESSIVE FUNDING, VARIOUS LEVELS OF ADMINISTRATION, ETC., BUT PRIMARILY ONE OF REORGANIZATION OF EXISTING UN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUENOS 02342 081509Z

RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE UN-IWY FUND EARMARKED FOR REGIONAL PROGRAMS IN LA AND ELSEWHERE, SUCH AS AFRICA, WHERE REGIONAL WOMEN'S TRAINING CENTER NOW EXISTS, AND IN ASIA, WHERE ONE IS PROPOSED TO BEGIN SHORTLY. HOWEVER, IT WAS CLEAR AT THIS MEETING THAT PARTICIPANTS DID NOT SEE UN/ECLA AS THAT VEHICLE FOR LATIN AMERICA.

8. USDEL RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT BEGIN NOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE

THIS ENCOURAGING SITUATION BY UTILIZING UN AND US EXPERTISE IN THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT AND IN DEVELOPMENT SO THAT, AT LEAST IN LATIN AMERICA, US CAN TAKE MEASURES TO MOVE WOMEN CLOSER TO POSITIONS OF EQUALITY AND IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT DURING THE "DECADE FOR WOMEN 1976-1985," BEARING IN MIND THAT US MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE SOME EVIDENCE OF US DEDICATION TO IMPLEMENTATION AND OF SUCCESSSS AT THE MID-TERM AND FINAL UN WORLD CONFERENCES TO BE HELD IN OBSERVANCE OF THE DECADE FOR WOMEN ALREADY UNDER WAY.

9. TO FURTHER UNDERLINE SINCERITY OF US COMMITMENT, SUGGEST US APPROACH BE DEVELOPED IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (NOT UN-ESA) AND THAT US URGE IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN INADEQUATE STAFF SITUATION AND RESOURCES, WITH SUFFICIENT INCREASE IN BUDGET TO MEET THE TASK. THERE SHOULD BE FAVORABLE FALL-OUT TO THIS POLICY IN MANY AREAS INCLUDING POPULATION. ALSO THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS NEW PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION INA NY US PROPOSAL NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR UN REORGANIZATION. IF THE US FAILS TO ACT AT THIS PROPITIOUS TIME, THE FORCE OF THE WORLD WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WILL BE SUBVERTED BY OTHERS; OF THIS THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT.
HILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUENOS02342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760133-0875
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760484/aaaactwb.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BUENOS AIRES 2256
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN SEMINAR ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT BUENOS AIRES, MARCH 22-31: USDEL RECOMMENDATIONS
TAGS: OCON, AR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006